

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Application for Naturalization

Form N-400

(OMB No. 1615-0052)

A. Justification.

1. **General Requirement.** The Form N-400 is an application the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) provides for the use of immigrants who apply for naturalization. The USCIS uses the N-400 to determine whether the applicant is eligible for U.S. citizenship. The following sections of the INA mandate or authorize the collection of information on the N-400: 310, 311, 313, 314, 316, 318, 319, 328, 329, 332, 333, 334 335, 337, 338, and 340.
2. **Purpose of Information Collection.** The USCIS uses information collected on the N-400 to determine the applicant's eligibility for naturalization.
3. **Information Technology.** The USCIS has continually restructured its application receipt and processing procedures in order to reduce the time required to complete routine data entry duties. In 1995, the USCIS developed automated USCIS Forms 2D Bar Code software. The software has been distributed to Community Based Organizations (CBOs) throughout the country and on the USCIS Web site. This program allows users to enter various elements of information into the software. These

data automatically generate a bar code that is printed onto the application. Upon the application's arrival at a Service Center, the bar code is scanned into the application processing system. When formatted for the new N-400 application, this software will eliminate repetitive, time-consuming and costly data entry activities.

4. **Duplication of Effort.** The information that appears on the N-400 is not captured elsewhere for the naturalization process.
5. **Impact on Small Entities.** The collection of information on the N-400 does not have an impact on small businesses or other small entities.
6. **Importance of Information.** The information collected on the N-400 is essential to documenting whether the applicant has met all the eligibility requirements for naturalization and to conduct a meaningful adjudication interview.
7. **Special Circumstances.** No special circumstance applies to this information collection.
8. **Public Comments.** The USCIS published a notice in the Federal Register on May 16, 2005 at 70 FR 25842. The notice allowed for a 60-day public review and comment period. The USCIS received comments regarding the instructions associated with this information collection.

9. **Payment or Gifts.** The USCIS does not provide payment or gifts to respondents in exchange for a benefit sought.

10. **Assurance of Confidentiality.** There is no assurance of confidentiality for immigrants applying for the benefit of naturalization.

11. **Questions of a Sensitive Nature.** Applicants provide descriptive information on a worksheet at the Applicant Support Centers (ASCs). Then ASC staff enter it into the database, take the fingerprints electronically, and send the information to the FBI.

12. **Annual Reporting Burden:**

a.	Number of Respondents	700,000
b.	Number of Responses per each Respondent	1
c.	Total Annual Responses	700,000
d.	Hours per Response	6.13
e.	Total Annual Reporting Burden	4,291,000
f.	Public Cost	\$ 315,910,000

Annual Reporting Burden

The total annual reporting burden is **4,291,000**. This figure is based on the number of adult respondents estimated at 700,000 multiplied by an estimated 6 hours and 8 minutes per response. The projected hours per response for this collection of information were derived by breaking the process into three basic components:

Reviewing Naturalization Guide:	8 minutes
Completion of the Form:	2 hours
Assembling Documents:	4 hours
<i>Total Hours</i> per Response:	<i>6.13 hours</i>

Public Cost

The estimated annual public cost is **\$315,910,000**. This is based on the number of respondents (700,000) x hours of response (6.13 hours) x average hourly rate (\$10), plus the number of respondents (700,000) x the fee (\$330).

13. **Start-Up Costs.** There are no capital or start-up costs associated with this information collection. Any cost burdens to respondents as a result of this collection are identified in item 14. There is a \$330 fee associated with the filing of this information collection, and a biometrics fee of \$70.
14. **Factors for determining cost to the Federal Government and Public.** When determining costs to the Federal Government and the Public the following factors should be included:

a.	Printing Cost	\$ 1,008,000
b.	Collecting and Processing Cost	\$ 271,992,000
c.	Total Cost to Program	\$ 273,000,000

d.	Fee Charge	\$ 273,000,000
e.	Total Cost to Government	0

Government Cost

The estimated cost of the program to the Government is calculated by using the estimated number of adult respondents (700,000) x \$330 fee charge (which includes the suggested average hourly rate for clerical, officer, and managerial time with benefits, plus a percent for the estimated overhead cost for printing, stocking, distributing and processing of this form).

15. **Changes in the Burden Hours.** There has been no increase or decrease in the burden hours associated with the collection of this information.
16. **Published Results.** The USCIS does not intend to employ the use of statistics or the publication thereof for this collection of information.
17. **Expiration Date.** The USCIS will display the expiration date for OMB approval of this information collection.
18. **Exception to Certification.** The USCIS does not request an exception to the certification of this information collection. See attached Item 19 of Form OMB 83-I.

B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods.

Not applicable.

C. Certification and Signatures.

PAPERWORK CERTIFICATION

In submitting this request for OMB approval, I certify that the requirements of the Privacy Act and OMB directives have been complied with including paperwork

regulations, statistical standards or directives, and any other information policy directives promulgated under 5 CFR 1320.

Richard A. Sloan
Director
Regulatory Management Division

Date